

A PANGRAMMATIC DIAMOND

JEFF GRANT

Hastings, New Zealand

Editor's Note: In "Word Ways Challenges" in the February 1979 issue, Philip Cohen and the editor asked "Can any form (diamond, pyramid) contain all 26 letters?" This well-nigh-impossible challenge has now fallen, with the double nine-diamond presented below.

Q
B U S
J U I C K
P A R N H A M
Z Y G O T A X I S
T A W F I E R
L E O V S
D I E
L

Definitions:

- BUROWED, past tense of 'burow', an early form of the verb 'borrow' (Oxford English Dictionary)
- JAGAL, a populated place in Pakistan (Times Index-Gazetteer)
- JUICK, a variant of 'jeuk', a duck (Scottish National Dictionary)
- KAXES, plural of 'kax', variant of 'kex', the stem of certain umbelliferous plants (Oxford English Dictionary)
- LEOVS, found under the verb 'leave' (English Dialect Dictionary)
- MIR, a chief or head in India and Persia (Webster's Second)
- PARNHAM, an English surname, also appearing in 'Parnham House' in Dorset (Bartholomew's Gazetteer of the British Isles)
- PYT, an early form of 'pit' (Oxford English Dictionary)
- QUINTFOIL, a variant of 'cinquefoil', an architectural ornament having five points or cusps (Webster's Second)
- SCHALVE, a 17th-century spelling of 'shave' (Oxford English Dictionary)
- TAWFLER, comparative form of 'tawfy', soft (English Dialect Dictionary)
- ZYGOTAXIS, the attraction between two zygophores, or between two suspensors, causing conjugation (Webster's Second)